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WORDS FITLY SPOKEN.

WHILE we heartily endorse every line and sentiment of the following pungent criticism, we can not help a sensation of relief and self-gratulation as we realize our own freedom from the keen thrusts of such a sharp-pointed pen. We hope, however, that it is not altogether a pharisaical feeling which prompts us to thank Heaven that we are not as other men are:

WEEKLY MORGUES.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Cheap art is a good thing. If we can not have masters, old or new, by all means give us chromos, photographs, and illustrated newspapers. But cheap art, like all other popular goods, is liable, I suggest, to fall into well-tramped and dirty ruts. Let me, in behalf of boys and babies, utter a word of remonstrance for the editors of our pictorial papers. Ever since the Franco-Prussian war began, they felt it their duty to give us a weekly panorama of it. Besiegers and besieged were attacked by flying artists in every conceivable point—in front, in flank, in camp, city, balloon, or sewer. We had the Prussian in mass, and the Prussian *solus*. We were called upon to regard him not only in attack or in defense, but as he snored, or smoked, or sipped his lager beer. Especially was he a favorite son of art, when presented *in disjectis membris*. We had the Prussian legless, armless, and disemboweled. Nor was Paris—gaunt, ghastly, and hunger-bitten—less enticing to these popular artists. Starvation of men, women and babies has been so long their favorite theme that last week nothing was left but to present the lean ribs and gaping jaws of the famished street curs. All this we bore with patience. Perhaps an occasional doubt arose whether this or any war was not, in its inception and meaning, a terrible, savage problem for the consideration of older heads, rather than a matter of entertainment in all its grisly details for children. That two ambitious powers grapple each other in deadly conflict is reason, it is true, that the attention of the world should be given them. But why need we Americans go, jackal-like, over the battle-field, and drag our children along with us, to scent the carnage and turn over the dead bones? As we can do nothing to stay this bloody business, let us, in God's name, send what help we can to the sufferers, and turn to our own wholesomer and higher work for struggling humanity. I believe that very little good accrues from this incessant crying of "Alas, poor Yorick!" over dead Gauls and Teutons. If Hamlet had betaken himself to his own business, in lieu of smelling skulls and parleying with ghosts, he would have been a man of different weight in his day. In short, funeral baked meats coldly furnish forth any banquet, but hashed *ad nauseam* for children at Christmas time, they are an outrage and not to be borne.

Having exhausted the war, our artists, too, turn homeward for new views of misery. We have silhouettes from the Five Points, from the murderer's cell, from English factory yards, crowded with wanton women. Nast's pictures, horrible as they are sometimes, always enforce a high lesson; but in these there is no element above foulness and disgust. They surely can not be meant to incite benevolence; the most charitable digestion palls at the iteration of such nastiness. Our bowels are tired of yearning. What we want in a pictorial paper is a glimpse of things in the outer world wholesome, helpful, and of good report, and not a weekly morgue laid on our Saturday's breakfast table. We live, after all, in a cheerful world with a God glad and good over it, and it is as well to keep our children in mind of this. As for picturesque material, it may be worth while for our artists to remember that the suburbs of New York include a vast variety of scenery from the pine woods of Maine to the hills of Mexico, and the home-life of millions of people of every nationality under heaven. Among these they can surely find subjects for their pencil more original, effective, and decent than the lean ribs of Paris dogs, or the second-hand clothes of Manchester operatives. A MOTHER.

New York, Jan. 12, 1871.

PUBLISHERS CORNER.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

Messrs. FISK & HATCH, the well known Bankers, issue the following circular in regard to the specialties in their business.

United States Five-twenty Bonds, if allowed to run until 1875, will pay but Four per cent. Gold on the investment at present market rates; while they are likely to be funded at a lower rate of interest than they now bear before that time.

The First Mortgage Bonds of the Central Pacific Railroad Company, at present market price, will pay nearly Seven per cent. in Gold on the investment, and cannot be called in or the interest reduced under twenty-five years.

A difference of from Fifteen to Twenty per cent. may be realized in exchanging Government Bonds for Central Pacifics, or saved in making new investments.

The safety and value of the First Mortgage Bonds of the Central Pacific Railroad Company are thoroughly established and universally recognized.

The value of the property, the immense and increasing revenues of the Company, and its able and honorable management, assure the security of the principal, and prompt and regular payment of interest beyond question.

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We buy and sell Government Bonds, Gold, and Coupons, execute orders in miscellaneous securities at the New York Stock Exchange, make collections, receive deposits subject to check at sight, allow interest on balances, and do a general Banking Business.

FISK & HATCH,
No. 5 NASSAU STREET,
NEW YORK, January 14, 1871.

HARVEY FISK. A. S. HATCH.

THE NATIONAL WATCH COMPANY, of Elgin, Ill., makes watches of the best time-keeping quality, and the company is making such improvements that it seems as if the day had come when no man can excuse himself for not keeping a watch which is absolutely accurate, as well as wonderfully cheap. There is no more beautiful, valuable or reasonable lady's watch than the one made by the above company, denominated "The Lady Elgin." See advertisement in another column.

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The Main(e) question—What is the real State of the Union Mutual?

The Continental, of New York, has issued more policies during 1870 than any other life company.

The conservative Continental, of Hartford, though not claiming any increase of business the past year, reports a good class of risks taken, a favorable mortality record, and solid results for the efforts of its officers, who are not figure-heads, but working men, every one of them.

THE annual report of the New England Mutual Life is a model of brevity, pith and sense. This conservative corporation, of which B. F. Stevens is president, is virtually a cash company now, and, although its mortality was large the past year, its dividends to policy-holders were all that the company promised, which can not be said of every life company.

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We issue Circular Letters of Credit, for travelers, available in all parts of the world; also Commercial Credits. We make Telegraphic Transfers of Money to any desired point, and transact every description of Foreign Banking Business.

We draw Bills of Exchange in sums from £1 upwards, on
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Collections made in any part of the world.

LOCKWOOD & CO.,
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Transact a General Banking Business, including the purchase and sale of Government and State Bonds, Railroad Stocks and Bonds, and other securities, on commission.

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Cash in Bank, - - - - -	533,797
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